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First Paper - Speech

Fellow Legislature, my name is Core Bet, the Ambitious Veteran, and I am here to protest for a neutralist path in this topic of potential division. I was born into a wealthy background where my family was slaveholding, and my grandfather was a Senator in the Continental Congress during the War of Independence. I attended the United States Military Academy, and after some time, reentered the Army during the Mexican War as a Dragoon. During my time, I had the privilege to climb the ranks and become a captain. I ended up settling down in our home state of Kentucky and have raised my family and four here. I successfully stood for office in 1856 as a member of the Opposition at the time. Now I am here to help keep Kentucky safe and standing for our beautiful state, which we know and love, by opening up our options to survive the tension. The North and South are at each other's throats, and there are two points of view to look at the situation from.

When taking into account the feelings of the Northern states, the tension exists because of the idealized power that the South is said to have. A major politician who is very open to the idea is Abraham Lincoln, as seen in "A House Divided," who believes that there is an elaborate organization for power within the Southern states. This is what ultimately resulted in the separation between the North and the South because the South sees slave labor as a part of their society, but the North sees it as something that is an unfair advantage to them, and there is paid labor. This outlook makes it seem like there is an unfair playing field, and I think context is key.

Because the South has not played by the rules either. For instance, Lincoln mentioned that during the Dred Scott decision, there was a hold on the decision until there were attempts at a possible presidential establishment for slave labor. These schemes and attempts to make a permanent establishment of slave labor have increased, and as we have seen, have enabled the South to start to secede instead of trying to fight under the Constitution.

The South's power, as discussed in "Cotton is King" by James Hammond, is vast economically. The agricultural background of this nation is the South, and so much of our economy is backed by it. However, I believe that this succession has been a result of our Southern brothers getting ahead of themselves. Documents like "Cotton is King" have inflated egos and have caused delusion among the people who choose to leave the Union at this stage. Just as much as there is a right to leave the Union, there has to be a logical reason for it. Kenneth Tuckerson, I believe, got across the point very well... His consensus was that there is no such thing as a peaceable secession, and mentioning that there will always be some form of bloodshed. He reminds us of Bleeding Kansas and helps put into perspective the horror of a mass scale of fellow Americans fighting each other, resulting in fatherless and sonless families. The father is the backbone of a household, and just as when times get tough, they step in and does the dirty work for their family. I say to you, let us father in a new idea of peace and establish a precedent worth establishing.

To be not a Confederate, or Unionist, but as an Isolationist who strives to show our roots and how the North and South can coexist, because they exist in the one and only state known as Kentucky. To help with this movement to a stronger and more fortified state, the result is evident, and it's going to be through the help of the State Guards. As the Inspector General mentioned, we must be ready for anything, and to sit around and do nothing will get us nowhere. Having

funding through a bill can help with preventing an invasion is most important, and war is always messy, and we don't want to seem like a state that can not stand for what they believe and get pushed around. This funding should not go to waste either, because in the case of keeping this neutrality, we would have to keep the boys' homes, as the Governor has also mentioned. We don't want to stretch ourselves thin. The state of Kentucky needs our men here to keep our people safe from the tensions that are not associated with us. Being between the North and South is also a liability that we have to address.

Cutting off access to the North and South is vital to keeping us safe and preventing us from fighting in an unnecessary war. This would be done through suspending operations through a bill that would help with the isolationist movement within the state of Kentucky. Suspending the Louisville and Nashville railroad would prevent the state from being a point of interest since the newly built line connects both the North and South. This would push the two sides under tension to fight in our state and would result in troops coming in, and our state would become a key transportation route for weapons and troops. The riverboat operation should also come to a halt at ports to prevent the movement of the potential military operations of the factions. All in hopes of saving our beautiful states from becoming separated and affecting our brothers and sisters.

Put simply, we have to fight the war by staying neutral, and there is no other way around it. Our hope is to increase funding for the State Guard to be prepared for all possibilities that might arise in an unpredictable turn of events. We want no sign of weakness because Kentucky is no weak state, and we hold on to each other as we close off transportation for the time being to prevent any thought of invasion. Kentucky men, we will get through as long as we stay together as a state!